INGRASSIA FISHER & LORENZ PC

Appl. No. 10/661,652

Dec. 18. 2006 4:05PM

Reply to Office Action of October 18, 2006

Docket. No.: 022.0008 (1630)

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P. 10

DEC 182006

REMARKS

In the October 18, 2006 Office Action, the Examiner allowed claims 17-40, 43, and 44, and rejected claims 2-15, and 41. Claims 10-14 and 41 have been amended. Claims 2-15 and 17-41, 43-44 (41 total claims; 4 independent claims) remain pending in the application. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

I. Allowable Claims

The indication that claims 17-40, 43, and 44 are allowed is gratefully noted.

II. Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 2-15 and 41 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 based on a variety of combinations of references. Claim 41 has been amended to depend on allowed claim 43. By virtue of the amendment to claim 41, claims 2-15 also ultimately depend on allowed claim 43. Accordingly, the claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103 are moot, and claims 2-15 and 41 are allowable at least for depending on an allowed claim.

III. Entry of Amendments after Final

Claims 10-15 and 41 have been amended. Claims 10-15 were amended to correct minor informalities in the preambles. Claim 41 was amended to depend from allowed claim 43. It is respectfully submitted that the present amendments do not require new search and/or consideration on the part of the Examiner and place the application in condition for allowance. Entry of the amendments is respectfully requested.

IV. Conclusion

In view of Applicants' amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's rejections have been overcome. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance, and such allowance is therefore earnestly requested. Should the Examiner have any questions or wish to further discuss this application, Applicants request that the Examiner contact the Applicants' attorneys at the telephone number below.

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If for some reason Applicants have not requested a sufficient extension and/or have not paid a sufficient fee for this response and/or for the extension necessary to prevent abandonment on this application, please consider this as a request for an extension for the required time period and/or authorization to charge Deposit Account No. 50-2091 for any fee which may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

INGRASSIA FISHER & LORENZ

Dated: 12/15, 2006

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